WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

New medicines for HIV

*164 SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian scientists have developed more accurately prescribed medicines that shall work on patients infected with HIV;

(b) the details of such medicines and by when they are expected to be made available in the market and at what cost; and

(c) whether HIV can be eliminated?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) An Indian Pharmaceutical company has marketed a "one pill a day" combination of three antiretroviral drugs with a view to improve adherence to medicines. The tablet contains;

i) Tenofovir 300mg+
ii) Emtricitabine 200 mg+
iii) Efavirenz 600 mg

It is available in the market and costs Rs. 4500/- per patient per months.

(c) Presently available therapies cannot eliminate HIV from body.

Complaint registration facilities

†166. SHRI ALI ANWAR: Will the the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the complaints and suggestions regarding this ministry are submitted through e-mail;

(b) whether it is also a fact that during the last one year, many complaints and suggestions have been registered on the e-mail address of various officers given on the Ministry's website; and

(c) if so, the number and nature of the suggestions and complaints received through e-mail and the action taken by Government with regard to every complaint and suggestion and if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) As per the message displayed on the website of the Ministry, for any suggestions, complaints, Public Grievances related to the Health and Family Welfare sector, e-mails can be sent to the Health and Family Welfare Minister at the e-mail i.d. *hfm@alpha.nic.in.*

A few suggestions have been received and these have been appropriately processed.

Reduction in foodgrain quota

†167. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether foodgrain quota of some States has been reduced during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof as on date, State-wise;

(c) whether Government have received requests from various States for not reducing foodgrain quota; and

(d) if so, the States from which requests have been received alongwith the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The foodgrain quota has not been reduced for the BPL & AAY Category during the last three years, only the inter-se ratio of allocation of rice and wheat has been changed. For the APL Category, the allocation of wheat has been rationalized taking into account the monthly average of offtake figures for the last three years or the last year, whichever is lower. A 25% cut on this has been imposed for the predominantly rice consuming States. The State Governments, however, can ask for allocation of rice in lieu of the reduced wheat allocation for the APL Category. The State-wise details of pre-revised and revised allocation of foodgrains are at Statement—I (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Requests have been received for not reducing enhancing the wheat/rice allocation from some State/Union Territories, names of which

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.